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LABOR CLARION

The Official Journal of the San Francisco Labor Council

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Order of President Promises Show-Down on Company Union

CORPORATIONS and individuals who persist in violating the labor section of the National Industrial Recovery Act have been dealt a heavy blow by President Roosevelt in an executive order giving the National Labor Board express power to conduct elections for collective bargaining representatives in any plant where a substantial number of workers express the desire to have an election held.

The President's action was the outgrowth of a nation-wide movement by anti-union employers to organize, finance and control company unions in plain violation of Section 7-a of the Recovery Act. Determined to wreck collective bargaining, which is the basis of the trade union movement, these concerns deliberately flouted the jurisdiction of the National Labor Board, established by the President to adjust industrial disputes, refused to obey its decisions, refused to hold elections for collective bargaining representaives under its supervision, and even challenged the board's right to step into their plants.

Notable among the company union concerns which have fought the jurisdiction of the board are the Weirton Steel Company, with plants at Weirton and Clarksburg, West Va., and Steubenville, Ohio; the E. G. Budd Manufacturing Company of Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Rapid Transit System, and the National Lock Company of Rockford, Ill.

Manufacturers' Association in Evidence

Many of these concerns have been assisted in their subversive policy by the National Association of Manufacturers, notorious for its opposition to trade unionism and the outstanding enemy of the abolition of child labor, which has given them legal advice or other aid in their efforts to nullify the labor section of the Recovery Act, and especially the clause which was written into the act for the express purpose of outlawing company unions.

Throughout the labor movement and among recovery officials the association has been regarded as the co-ordinating force in resisting the Labor Board and in organizing company unions, which are devised for no other purpose than to intimidate employees from joining bona fide independent national and international unions.

The President's sweeping order was designed definitely to clear away all doubt of the Labor Board's authority over company union controversies and collateral disputes, with unlimited authority to hold elections for collective bargaining representatives.

The President put no strings on what the Labor Board may do in these controversies. The executive order declares that the board may determine "in such manner as it sees fit" whether a substantial number of employees want an election for representatives to deal with the management, and it may define in its own discretion what the substantial number may be.

It may conduct the election under its own exclusive control and under whatever rule it chooses to lay down.

It shall require that those voted for by a majority shall represent all of the employees.

Labor Board Will Rule Elections

It shall certify the names of the elected representatives to the employer, and if he declines to deal with them or recognize them, "or is in any other way refusing to comply with the requirements" of the labor sections of the industrial law, the board shall report the case to the N.R.A. administrator "for appropriate action."

It was announced that Attorney General Cummings had been consulted in the preparation of the order and was regarded as believing it would remove the uncertainties which hitherto have prevented cases of industrial defiance from being taken into court.

Under the executive order it is understood that whenever an employer refuses to allow an election or to recognize its results the case will go to N.R.A.'s compliance boards. On failure to settle there it will go to the Department of Justice.

* * *

Steel Companies Will Resist

EXECUTIVES of all the leading steel companies have issued a statement after a meeting in New York saying the industry intends "to resist all attacks" upon company unions, and holding that the present plan of employee representation complies with the N.R.A.

The statement, issued after a meeting at the offices of the American Iron and Steel Institute, took exception to the National Labor Board's authority to conduct elections for employee representatives when a "substantial" number request that action.

It represented the industry's first pronouncement on the latest policy of the N.R.A. and the first definition of the companies' position regarding the unions.

Profound conflict over the company union issue in the big industries was expected to result from latest developments over President Roosevelt's order strengthening the National Labor Board.

The word that executives of leading iron and steel companies had adopted a declaration standing by the company union brought no immediate comment from officials in Washington.

However, the sweeping language of the latest order by the President already had brought a serious protest from the National Association of Manufacturers, with the result that an interpretation of its meaning may be issued shortly to contest a possible use of the order to establish the closed shop in industries where only a bare majority belong to a union.

The action of the steel men was expected to strengthen greatly the demand for legislation either outlawing company unions altogether or limiting them to an ineffective scope.

Small Business and the N.R.A.

EVIDENTLY as an answer to the claims of Senator Borah of Idaho and Sentaor Nye of North Dakota that small businesses have been "squeezed" under N.R.A. codes, a report has just been submitted to Administrator Hugh S. Johnson which shows a marked decline in commercial mortalities during the last six months of 1933 as against the same periods in 1932 and 1928.

Especially interesting is the finding in the analysis, made by Division Administrator A. D. Whiteside, that the decline in failures was sharper among small businesses than in the larger groups.

Inasmuch as no codes became effective before July 1, 1933, and the President's Re-employment Agreement did not become effective until August 1, the National Industrial Recovery Act could not, Whiteside pointed out, have contributed to business failures prior to July 1.

In the last six months of the year, it is disclosed, the failure total was 6805 lower than the total during the same period in 1932 and 3420 below the total for the last half of 1928, a decline of 47 per cent from 1932 and 31 per cent from 1928.

Administrator Whiteside said in his analysis:

"It should be clearly understood hat the N.R.A. can not be expected to be a shield for incompetency, and that under the most favorable conditions the incompetents will fall out, or it will be evident that the conditions imposed by the codes are so favorable to industry or trade that the consumers of this country will pay an exorbitant price to maintain the solvency of less than 1 per cent of those engaged in business, which are incompetent."

* * *

Senator Wagner Wants Amendment

IT NOW appears likely that Congress will be given an opportunity to thresh out the ambiguities of Section 7 of the National Industrial Recovery Act, which have been the cause of so much contention. The fact that more company unions are now in existence than before the enactment of the law, which was declared to outlaw such organizations, has aroused labor and the sponsors of the legislation to demand that the law be amended to carry out the principles which inspired the Recovery program.

Senator Robert F. Wagner, chairman of the National Labor Board, has announced that legislation will be introduced soon in Congress through which he hopes to solve the collective bargaining controversy which has raged intermittently almost since the start of the Recovery program.

Different interpretations of collective bargaining provisions in the Recovery Act have threatened to bring an open breach between the Labor Board and N.R.A., with Senator Wagner seeking to outlaw company unions and the Recovery Administration interpreting the provision as not having definite bearing on the particular union which represents workers.

Mine Workers' Goal Is Thirty-Hour Week And Increased Wages

The United Mine Workers of America, by decision of the closing session of the union's convention in Indianapolis last week, will press for increased wages and final adoption of the five-day week and six-hour day.

Action to win higher pay and the shorter week will be taken at the conferences between operators and miners to begin in Washington on February 12.

The stand of the convention on the shorter week was expressed in approving a resolution which said:

Only Constructive Program

"Your scale committee recommends that it be the policy of this organization that the officers and members of the scale committee be authorized to press the consideration and final adoption of the five-day week and six-hour day. We are confident that this method offers the only constructive program that can be pursued by the bituminous coal industry or the federal government in the interest of stabilization and more widespread employment."

The convention voted to hold its next convention in 1936 in Washington, inasmuch as the union's international headquarters are to be moved there.

Shorter working hours and higher wages are necessary to the economic salvation of all the people in the United States, Frances Perkins, secretary of labor, told the convention.

Secretary Perkins said that the income of the farmers and the wages of industrial workers represent the great bulk of the buying power of the nation. During the depression, she said, this buying power was reduced approximately $12,000,000,000. This can be recovered, Miss Perkins said, only through better wages and shorter working hours so that the wages will be spread among a greater number of people.

The secretary asserted that the development of machines had made shorter work schedules both possible and necessary.

"Machines used in the mines and factories of the United States should be made the servants of the wage earners and pay them a share in the profits they earn in the form of increased pay and shorter hours, she said.

Communists Rebuked

The convention emphatically rebuked communism in overwhelmingly voting down a proposal to change the union's constitution to permit members to join the Communist party. When John Sloan of Westville, Ill., tried to champion the proposal he was shouted down and narrowly escaped ejection. President John Lewis pointed out that the union had barred communists from the organization because the party "had been undertaking to control trade unions."

Great Demonstration for Peace Planned to Be Held in Brussels

Plans are in preparation for a great international demonstration, to be held at Brussels on or about February 15, in the cause of world peace. It is hoped to hold the demonstration under the auspices of the International Federation of League of Nations Societies. The object of the demonstration will be to reaffirm the faith of democracy in the League of Nations and the collective system; to demand the conclusion of a convention which all governments would accept as binding, and which would result in a substantial disarmament, security and fair play all round.

Market Street Railway Company Spurns Overtures on Transfers

Due to the fact that the rebuilding and overhauling of San Francisco school houses has caused great inconvenience to thousands of school children by reason of the great distances they must travel to school, the Board of Education has been responsible for bringing about a conference between E. G. Cahill, superintendent of the Municipal Railway, and representatives of the Market Street Railway in an endeavor to bring about an interchange of transfers.

The Public Utility Commission, through Manager Cahill, expressed a willingness not only to accommodate the school children by making their transfers interchangeable between the two lines, but offered to enter into an agreement for a universal transfer system.

The Market Street Railway Company refused the offer of the Municipal line in both instances. Thus many of the children will continue to pay two car fares in going to and coming from school.

Plan for Employment Of State's Convicts

A comprehensive and apparently well thought out plan to convert the mechanical shops of the California state prisons into a supply agency for all state-supported institutions, thus providing savings to the state that may reach one million dollars or more yearly, was given publicity this week.

This plan, which "would eliminate numerous expenditures for school furniture, state park supplies, mechanical appliances, plumbing fixtures, tinware and foundry casting," was, for some reason not explained by the State Prison Board, "revealed exclusively" by the San Francisco "Chronicle."

It would, according to Mark Noon, secretary of the board, solve the prisons' most perplexing problem—providing sufficient vocational opportunities for the 5700 prisoners now in confinement. Noon continues:

To Expand Present Plan

"At present all basic needs of the prison are supplied by convict labor. This applies to original requirements as well as replacements and repairs. There is no reason why all state buildings should not have equal access to our facilities.

"I realize full well that there will be some opposition by those now supplying these needs. If we can save the state the necessity of buying materials and supplies on the open market, however, we should be allowed to do so.

"Our only 'industry' at the present moment is the jute mill. Last year it produced 5,500,000 sacks and kept 1200 men busy. By utilizing our facilities for making tinware, woodwork, plumbing and foundry supplies, we can keep all 5700 of our prisoners at work regularly and, incidentally, save the state a considerable sum of money."

Would Lessen Unrest

Prison labor is only 10 per cent as efficient as free labor, Noon declared, "but this will not materially affect the feasibility of the plan. Our chief object is to put convicts to work. But far the greater number of prisoners are unskilled laborers. Normally we have little or no work for them to do. Thus, turning the mechanical department into a state supply agency will provide work for all and appreciably lessen the likelihood of unrest and dissatisfaction."

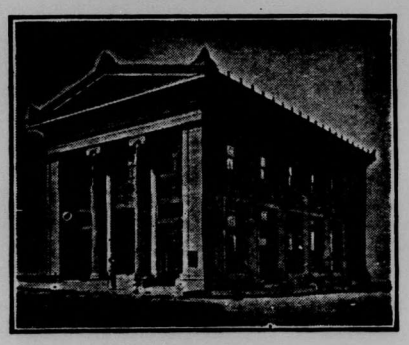
Noon concludes with the statement that "this is the ultimate plan of the board; the rest is up to the Legislature." He would not commit himself as to the outlook for the accomplishment of the plan.

President Edward D. Vandeleur of the San Francisco Labor Council unequivocally stated that labor would not stand for the proposal of Noon, and John A. O'Connell, secretary of the Council, was indignant. "This is an outrage," he said. "There's little enough work in the basic industries for free, law-abiding citizens without taking the bread out of their mouths to give to public enemies."

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Agricultural Strikes Will Be Investigated

Announcement of the establishment of a special commission to deal with agricultural disturbances in southern California, and particularly with the strikes among cotton pickers, was made on January 26 by Senator Robert F. Wagner, chairman of the National Labor Board.

Members of the commission are Chairman Dr. J. L. Leonard, who is chairman of the Los Angeles Regional Labor Board; Hon. Simon J. Lubin of the State Department of Commerce of California, and Hon. Will J. French, formerly director of the California Department of Industrial Relations.

Their instructions from the National Labor Board are to investigate disturbances in the Imperial Valley for the purpose of making recommendations looking toward permanent adjustment of the agricultural labor situation there. The commission will begin its work at once.

A strike among the lettuce pickers of southern California has been increasing to serious proportions. The labor situation in the region has been aggravated by unrest among the orange pickers. Many of the lettuce pickers are Mexicans. The basic cause of difficulty is unemployment, as there are available from three to five thousand more field hands than can be employed by the lettuce growers. The situation is one of long standing and often has resulted in violence. Solution of the difficulty may involve questions of repatriation of foreigners.

The task of the Labor Board's commission is to make recommendations for a permanent solution of the difficulties, as well as to make any adjustment it can of the present disturbance.

Ohio Minimum Laundry Wage Law Patterned on New York Statute

The minimum wage board for the State of Ohio has just set up a schedule of wages and hours for the laundry industry patterned after the standards now in force in New York State, says an Albany dispatch. State Industrial Commissioner Elmer F. Andrews reports that regulations for the administration of the Ohio law practically duplicate the code set up in New York. A state minimum of 27½ cents for a forty-hour week, with a 10 per cent hourly bonus for a short work-week, was established by a wage board composed of representatives of the laundry industry, employees and the public. Enforcement of the wage schedules has been begun.

Enactment of the Ohio law followed passage of the Wald minimum fair wage law by the New York Legislature last year, and is similar in its principal provisions. Inquiries from other states where a similar law is being considered have been received by the New York State Department of Labor.

DEATHS IN UNION RANKS

Since last reports the following members of local unions have passed away: Albert Meagher, member of Teamsters' Union No. 85; Bert R. Lewis, Sheet Metal Workers' Union No. 104; Robert H. Goewey, Typographical Union No. 21; Herman Schreiber, Butchers' Union No. 115.

A SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT

Birmingham, Ala., Moving Picture Operators, Local 236, has been successful in signing new contracts with all theaters in that city, with an increase in salary and a reduction in hours. "We now have only one downtown theater and two subuurban theaters that do not employ members of our local and we hope to soon have them lined up. Then we shall be 100 per cent organized," said Ralph Root, business agent.

Socialists Urge Boycott on Products of Nazi Forced Labor

The public affairs committee of the Socialist party has announced it would ask "liberals, trade unionists and others who have indicated their interest in an economic boycott against Germany as a means of ending the Nazi terror" to join a demand for enforcement of the tariff act section forbidding importation of products of forced labor.

The committee declared the labor code promulgated by the Hitler government "reduces the entire German working class to a condition of involuntary servitude by placing workers completely at the mercy of employers and abolishing rights acquired as a result of decades of struggle."

Meeting to Protest Policies of Hitler

A mass meeting called for the purpose of focusing the attention of citizens of San Francisco on alleged Nazi atrocities against labor, women and national minorities, and everyone who is not falling in line with Hitler policies in Germany, has been called to take place at the Civic Auditorium on Tuesday evening, February 13.

The principal speaker will be Samuel Untermyer, the eminent New York lawyer and champion of labor. Others who will participate in the program are John O'Connell, secretary of the San Francisco Labor Council, and Hon. John D. McNab, who will preside.

The mass meeting is being arranged under the auspices of the American League for the Defense of Jewish Rights, of which Untermyer is president. It has the active support of William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in accord with the action of the last convention of that body, which is vitally interested in the movement. The civilized conscience of the world has been aroused against the Hitler inhumanities, perpetrated on both organized labor and racial minorities in Germany, and mass meetings are being arranged throughout the country to give expression to the protest.

The advisory council of the local branch of the league comprises Rev. Dr. William Sherman, Fremont Older, John D. Barry, Rabbi Joseph Karesh, Chief of Police William J. Quinn, Judge Matthew Brady and Thomas Doyle.

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Problem of Prison Labor

The plan proposed by the State Prison Board for the expansion of the scope of prison labor to include the furnishing of products of prison shops for the use and equipment of other state institutions and buildings will call for the closest scrutiny, both on the part of labor and business interests.

The problem of prison labor has engaged the attention of legislatures and civic and commercial bodies for generations, and while much patient study and volumes of discussion have been devoted to the subject, there is great divergence of opinion as to the solution.

Organized labor has consistently opposed competition of prison labor with free labor. It has realized that legitimate business which is expected to pay decent wages can not compete with prison products, even with the handicap of low efficiency on the part of the latter. However, labor realizes that work of some nature must be provided for the unfortunates confined in penal institutions, and has regarded with more or less complacency certain forms of convict labor. It will watchfully regard any encroachments suggested which may tend to introduce convict-made goods into the general business field.

Unassuming Miss Robinson

Miss Frances Robinson, secretary and executive assistant of General Hugh S. Johnson of the N.R.A., has made her debut as a radio speaker, and in her initial appearance has made it plain that she is no shrinking violet. Like her chief, she is not at all backward in making claims as to accomplishments, and incidentally she seems not averse to crediting herself, indirectly, with whatever has been accomplished by her superior.

Women generally, says Miss Robinson, "are exerting the power of their new freedom, and who is to say they are not making a better 'go of it' than the men?" She continues:

"Take our own government in Washington today. You will find in practically every branch of our government an able, conscientious woman who really runs the particular office. She rarely has the title. But she is there just the same, patiently, ably, self-effacingly performing the service for which somebody else gets the salary and honor.

"Perhaps some of you have wondered how politicians, lifted suddenly from obscurity, can carry on the intricate affairs of a highly technical government job. There is no mystery. These translated gentlemen have not, by magic, become genii of finance or statesmanship, but they have found in their offices some unassuming woman who knows what it's all about and carries on."

All Honor to Heywood Broun

The Labor Clarion figuratively "doffs its hat" to Heywood Broun, who so valiantly takes the part of the under dog in the discussion of the tremendous issues now before the American people.

The brilliant columnist refuses to be convulsed with laughter over a recent news story detailing an incident of the waiters' strike in New York, when well-known actors, actresses and writers came to the rescue of the hotel management and donned aprons and "helped to wait on table." Alleged humorous incidents regarding spilling of soup down somebody's neck and a waiter's jacket that would not fit an obese writer's person fail to cause Mr. Broun even to smile. He says:

"It may be that this is awfully, awfully funny, but I can't see it. The hotel workers of New York are fighting for a right which is written plainly into the law of this land. They are trying to find out whether this government means to keep its promises."

And on the same day he delivers a scathing indictment of a fellow columnist who reported humorously that "under a child labor amendment to the United States Constitution children might be shot dead in their homes for helping to wash the dishes or mow the lawn."

"I cannot laugh, and I will not say that I am sorry," he says. "I do not want to see anything funny in the fact that for generations this has been a land where exploiters could sweat profits by taking advantage of the desperate necessities of small boys and girls. If anybody can find anything to laugh at in the vision of children walking slowly in and slowly out of the doors of mills and factories, then I'm glad I threw my sense of humor out the window."

There is a possibility that Mr. Broun had his own employers in mind when he penned this:

"I think that anybody who says: 'Well, I'd be for the amendment, but with certain reservations,' is in the enemy's camp and knows just where he's sitting.

"And when people rise up with piety and legalistic pleas to argue that they hate child labor as much as anybody else but that they can't abide to see the invasion of states' rights I do not think they are telling the truth. I class them, too, with those who are seeking to perpetuate child labor. He who is not with us is against us."

The Sales Tax Again

Despite the fact that the Ways and Means Committee of the federal House of Representatives has rejected the proposal for a $400,000,000 sales tax, the advocates of that dishonest and vicious plan to relieve the millionaire of taxation and compel those of small means to bear the burden are undismayed.

The chief advocate of the sales tax, with his string of newspapers to back him up, now resorts to vilification. He speaks of "insensate resistance" to "a sound tax" and "purblind and benighted adherence to an unsound tax" (the income tax). This is nothing less than "narrow prejudice and crass ignorance." And he threatens the congressmen who oppose his views with replacement at the elections which occur this year by "informed and up-to-date statesmen" who will follow his leadership.

The tremendous reduction in the income of the nation has, of course, been reflected in reduced income tax payments; and this is taken to mean that the income tax is a failure. Therefore, since the wealthy do not provide the funds necessary to carry on the government, the poor and those whom the income tax does not reach because they do not earn the minimum, must be made to pay. This sort of argument is not "crass ignorance." It is dishonesty and selfishness.

"The American Federation of Labor, representing millions of workers and all persons receiving modest incomes, has fought the sales tax as a policy of raising revenue for the government from the very inception of the propaganda launched by the wealthy in favor of it," says the A. F. of L. "Weekly News." It proceeds:

"The scheme is an open and unpatriotic attempt to shift taxation from the rich and well-to-do, who are able to pay it without the sacrifice of any useful element in their lives, to the masses of the people who are least able to bear the tax burden and whose living standards are necessarily reduced by every dollar extorted from them by tax collectors.

"The sales tax is also reprehensible because it is a concealed tax. It is collected from every purchaser of an article, but the tax is not revealed so that consumers can see and understand the amount they are called upon to pay.

"Frequently sales tax advocates throw a sop to working men and women and all other small-income groups by exempting the necessaries of life from their reactionary proposal. This is an attempt to deceive the masses. If the sales tax limited should become a law the wealthy and their propagandists would immediately endeavor to have the limitations removed and extend the scheme to cover sales of all articles, including products necessary to sustain life.

"The American Federation of Labor congratulates the members of the Ways and Means Committee for their refusal to adopt a system of taxation which is nothing but an instrument to 'soak the poor.'"

Investigate Beet Sugar Industry

Secretary of Labor Perkins has announced the appointment of a committee "to take immediate steps to formulate a plan for reorganization of labor policies and to present suggestions for improving labor conditions in the sugar beet fields." It was declared to be the first move including field as well as factory work in President Roosevelt's recovery program.

Whole families, including little children, Miss Perkins said, are employed seasonally in the beet fields, under trying conditions, and for the rest of the year are dependent on charity, since their earnings while employed are insufficient to maintain them through the "off season." This is a "social problem," she added, which it is impossible longer to ignore. She explained that the "conference method" would be employed in making the investigation.

Miss Perkins said that after studying official reports the committee will consult with representatives of those who own and control the beet sugar industry, who are primarily responsible for the barbarous exploitation of children in the interest of fat dividends and generous interest coupons, the beet growers, labor and the public, and "in co-operation with them will present suggestions for means of improving labor conditions in the beet sugar fields."

The beet sugar industry undoubtedly was in President Roosevelt's mind when he declared that no industry which could not provide a decent living for its employees had a right to exist.

Those states which have been the scene of operations of this industry have seen every blighting effect of industrial slavery illustrated within their boundaries. Although immense fortunes have been piled up by its promoters, the labor necessary for the carrying on of the operations has been so poorly remunerated that even the Orientals have revolted against it. The consequence has been that whole families of Mexican peons have flooded the Western states, to create the "social problem" that Miss Perkins mentions. That the taxpayers who have been victimized by the sugar barons have not revolted ere this shows the complacency with which abuses are endured when big business is concerned.

Acquire the habit of calling for the union label.

FROM LABOR VIEWPOINT

Miss Elsie Janis, the actress, was among those guests of a New York hotel who "came to the rescue of the management" when the waiters struck and donned aprons and waited on table. Possibly a word from the Actors' Equity might set Miss Janis right as to the ethics of her "humorous" stunt.

Approval of the President's monetary policy by the National Association of Manufacturers is the one sour note heard so far in the discussions. If this union-hating aggregation sees it as a policy "stimulating confidence in government credit and making possible business commitments in the future" it will be justification for closer scrutiny on the part of labor, creating fear that it contains a "joker."

Emma Goldman, the famous anarchist, has been permitted to return to this country for ninety days, and has announced her intention to deliver a series of lectures "on subjects not related to political affairs of this country." Her actions in unwittingly patronizing an unfair taxicab and stopping at a New York hotel in which strike conditions prevailed amused the alert news writers of the metropolis.

San Francisco's participation in the celebration of President Roosevelt's birthday was a credit to all concerned, and netted $12,000 for the Warm Springs Foundation for the care of children suffering from infantile paralysis. Final figures for the total raised throughout the nation have not yet been compiled, but are expected to reach three or four millions. The responses to the appeal were a tribute to the popularity of the President.

Labor is waging a big fight for restoration of the federal government workers' pay, but it faces a determined and powerful opposition which undoubtedly is backed by a large body of public opinion. Labor must make the public see that the government's pay cut policy is inconsistent with its program of raising wages in private employment and that instead of promoting recovery, the pay cut policy is a factor in retarding business gain.

That Nazi Germany's new labor law, wiping out trade unionism in its entirety, and with it the right to strike and bargain collectively, will not be hailed with favor by the rest of the world, is pointed out by the "Evening Star," Washington, D. C., which says: "The authors of the law can hardly expect it to merit the approval of other countries which long since recognized certain rights of organized labor as fundamental and irrevocable."

A rather pessimistic view of labor conditions in California is expressed by Ray L. Riley, state controller, in advocating the use of hand labor exclusively on state highway construction as a means of relieving unemployment. Despite re-employment activities by local, state and federal government agencies he estimates that 500,000 persons in California still are without jobs. He is quoted as saying that "social agencies are breaking down, and until now only government is able to meet the problem."

Placards carried by Market Street Railway cars convey the information that "680 men are employed on the Market Street Railway on upkeep of system." It is probable that if the private company were compelled to observe the conditions of the transit code (and it is a mystery why it is allowed to ignore it) double this number of employees would be needed. How long is this corporation to be allowed to employ men twelve or more hours a day while thousands of workers are relying on public relief?

The California State Automobile Association has awakened to the peril to the automobile industry of burdensome taxation, and has sent a protest to the California delegation in Congress in which it declares: "This association of California motorists is strongly opposed to the continuation of federal taxes on the acquisition and use of motor vehicles. There is no good logic for singling out motor vehicle owners for this form of taxation and we urge you to oppose it in committee." It is particularly opposed to the federal 1-cent gasoline tax. Taxes paid by motor vehicle owners during 1933 amounted to $1,180,000,000.

Embracing the opportunity afforded by the criticism of Ogden Mills directed against the Recovery program of President Roosevelt, and especially the N.R.A., the San Francisco "Examiner" again enters the lists with an assault on the "new deal." Hearst, like Mills, was born with a silver spoon in his mouth, and can see nothing in the President's program which is calculated to maintain the strangle hold which the "vested interests" have so long maintained upon the producers. It will be well to remind Hearst, Mills and their ilk that however far the Recovery program has wandered from its original purpose, it was not intended to make the amassing and retention of millions by individuals its main purpose.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By EDWARD VANDELEUR

Big-Hearted Byllesby—Behind a guise of devotion to public welfare as proclaimed on its impressive crest which adorns the car barns of the Market Street Railway Company, the Byllesby Corporation, "Pioneers in Public Service," have for a long time pulled the wool over the taxpayers' eyes in San Francisco. The Market Street Railway has failed in the hour of need when each and every citizen should do her or his part to bring our country back to prosperity. The Market Street Railway does not fly the blue eagle. The blue eagle is, above all, the modern symbol of popular self-government. The blue eagle offered a way in which people could add to all that government might do to enforce the Recovery program—a force more potent than any at the government's command, than any law, proclamation or statement—the force of public opinion. You know, without any formality of public hearing or ceremony, whether an employer is living up to his obligations. Why, then, do we have to invoke a machine to determine such questions? The blue eagle is enough. It means public co-operation and public determination. And if this is true, why is there any hesitation?

Unions Praised—A union is a good thing for the employer as well as for his employees. Josephine Roche made that declaration at a recent hearing before the N.R.A. on the coal code. Miss Roche runs the second largest coal properties in Colorado. From the beginning she has done business with the United Mine Workers, and has insisted on paying 25 cents a day above the wage scales of her most liberal competitors. Here's the result: Since Miss Roche signed the union contract, in 1928, her cost of production has dropped 12 per cent; last year the output per man per day was 1.6 tons more than the average production for the state. The sales of other Colorado coal companies dropped 50 per cent. Miss Roche's company showed a decrease of less than 25 per cent. More operators like Miss Roche would make government regulation unnecessary.

COMMENT AND CRITICISM

I. L. N. S.

About twenty-six billion dollars were drained off and poured into foreign countries in about ten years before the 1929 smash. Buying power of wage earners was held down while the "House of Have" raked in the golden flood of profit. New securities issues—securities is a funny word—were printed by the bale and the suckers fell in droves. Wages were cut to pieces and buying power, never high enough, went still lower.

Any study of the whole picture shows that the real key to the truth about the crash is located at just about that point. When wages went down the whole works went down, because buyers couldn't buy enough to create a market for mass production.

* * *

The queer thing about human nature is that it is perfectly willing to go through the same process again. Dividends are picking up. Corporations are yowling about raising wages. Every decent wage proposal before N.R.A. is opposed bitterly by employers. If they can keep wages down, pay fat dividends and get out more bales of stocks, they will do it. There's no sense to it all.

If N.R.A. cannot stem the tide toward the 1929 brand of craziness, then those who warn of fascism may not be so far wrong. Looks as if history has to teach a lesson about ten times before enough people learn its meaning. But right now we are in the process of making a good start toward repeating the crime of 1929.

* * *

Government, having started down the road via N.R.A., cannot stop. It must keep going and so must all the rest of the show. "The show must go on," whatever betide. Obstacles will mean turns, right or left, if the obstacles are big enough. Up to now whatever turnings there have been have been leftward. Probably that will continue—up to a point. For what has been started cannot be stopped. Lots of folks don't grasp that.

The course may change, but it will not be reversed—not by any means, nor by any force. Time in its flight does not turn backward. Neither does economic development. Wherever we go from here, it will be to some place where we have not been.

* * *

When a jokester at the United States treasury sang, "Andy doesn't live here any more," he warbled words that painted the whole picture. Nobody who used to live here lives here any more. It's a new show and the plot changes daily. Tomorrow and yesterday will not meet.

A watchman who saw two trains crash head-on said when he was asked what he thought when he saw them rushing toward each other, "I thought it was a hell of a way to run a railroad."

Tomorrow and yesterday will not come at each other head-on, that way. They grow apart, rapidly. But we can, as a nation, repeat much of the same kind of abuse and much the same kind of threat, if we don't watch out. Only it will be worse, if it comes, possibly fatal to what is left of what some folks wistfully call "the old order."

Won't it be much better if we "watch out"?

OF INTEREST TO SEAMEN

The House of Representatives has passed the Bland bill, providing transportation and other aid to seamen of American fishing and whaling vessels left stranded in foreign countries. The House also passed a bill to repeal a war-time provision of the merchant marine law, which permitted certain aliens to be employed on American vessels engaged in ocean mail service. It was designed to increase from 50 to 66⅔ the percentage of American citizens required in crews of American vessels.

Praise and Otherwise Greet Building Code

The construction industry master code, signed by President Roosevelt after weeks of controversy, is today the subject of lively argument and dispute. Many groups are not quite sure they like the code and are voicing their doubts with vigor, says an I. L. N. S. dispatch from Washington.

There is much discussion of the adjustment board of ten members elected by employers' organizations, ten nominated by labor, with an impartial chairman. Employers elect; labor nominates. Technically, this is not equal representation, trade unionists point out.

The code authority and the adjustment board have overlapping jurisdiction, which may not bring the happiest results. The code authority pays the bills and may thus hamstring the adjustment board.

Labor Proposals Ignored

This code, hung up since just before Christmas, comes out of the hopper without the addition of a single one of the major provisions offered by labor and which caused the holding up of the code.

These are points worth putting down for future reference. Today labor is divided between praise and the reverse. Affecting the second largest of all industries, it is of tremendous importance. Harmony in this industry means a stable foundation upon which governmental help for construction may be poured out. Will there be harmony? The cards do not yet reveal the answer.

The national adjustment board set up by the code comprises ten representatives of labor, ten representatives of the employers and an impartial chairman named by the President. The board is to adjust labor disputes in the industry and through regional sub-boards to negotiate wage, hour and other labor agreements for the various sections of the country.

Pending the negotiation of such agreements, the industry is to operate on a forty-hour week basis with a minimum wage of 40 cents an hour for unskilled labor and $12 to $15 a week for office workers, depending upon population.

For Later Consideration

Labor had demanded a shorter work-week and specific wage scales for all types of labor, but agreed to the code in view of the fact that it provides for machinery for further consideration of reduction in hours and for the fixing of wage scales for all kinds of skilled workers.

President Roosevelt, in a letter to General Johnson announcing that he had signed the code, suggested that the National Adjustment Board give early consideration to the development of a solution for the jurisdictional disputes that have disturbed the industry for years. General Johnson called the board "certainly the most comprehensive planning board yet written into the National Recovery Administration" and "perhaps the most comprehensive self-governing instrumentality yet conceived."

TYRANNICAL LAW AMENDED

Poverty is no longer the political "bar sinister" in Pennsylvania. Governor Gifford Pinchot has approved a measure permitting every qualified citizen to vote without paying a poll tax. For years tens of thousands of workers, unable to pay this poll tax, were disfranchised.

THE ANSWER WILL BE "NO"

Charles H. Ripley, farmer and business man of Pecos, Texas, has announced his candidacy for the United States Senate with the avowed purpose of seeing "if a poor man, fully qualified but without rich financial backers and a political machine, can crash the doors of that rich man's club known as the United States Senate." He advocated repudiation of all bonds and mortgages, public and private.

Supervisors Vote to Postpone Decision on Prevailing Wage

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors, at its meeting last Monday, postponed action in the matter of establishing the prevailing wage on city projects for the ensuing six months, as required by the charter.

A letter from the San Francisco Labor Council urging that a minimum wage of $1.10 an hour for skilled workers and a minimum of 75 cents an hour for unskilled workers be established was laid before the board. Where the union rate is more that the minimum to be established the contention of the Council is that the higher wage should be paid.

WITNESS IS SUICIDE

Suicide of Edward J. Brundage, former attorney general of Illinois, dealt a severe blow to the prosecution in the conspiracy-to-racketeer case against Alderman Oscar F. Nelson, vice-president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, and twenty-three other defendants.

Brundage was found dead in the basement of his home at Lake Forest, Ill., a fatal bullet wound in his head and a revolver clutched in his hand. He was slated to be a star witness for the prosecution.

The suicide of Brundage occurred on the day that selection of the jury to try the Nelson case was completed, and 24 hours after the International Labor News Service exposure of the sinister interests and motives behind the trial was published in the "Federation News," official publication of the Chicago Federation of Labor.

Future C.W.A. Projects Depend on Congress

In answer to a communication addressed to the Federal Civil Works Administration by the San Francisco Labor Council, suggesting that the program of that government agency be continued beyond the originally prescribed limit, an acknowledgement has been received by Edward D. Vandeleur, signed by Bruce McClure, secretary of the C.W.A.

The letter of Mr. McClure, after mention of "the deep concern for the serious results that may be brought about in your community by the early discontinuance of the Civil Works program," says:

Fund Rapidly Depleted

"Our original estimates of weekly expenditures necessary to operate the Civil Works program were made on the basis of 4,000,000 persons, receiving an average wage of between $12 and $13. Actually we have more than four million persons on our payrolls, and the average wage is in excess of $14 per week; consequently our appropriation of $400,000,000, which was originally believed would carry us until February 15, has rapidly been depleted, and it has been necessary for us to reduce the working hours on local, state and federal projects to keep our expenditures within the funds available to us.

"The President's program for the rapid employment of persons in diversified projects throughout the United States presented an opportunity for co-operation with the federal government by local civil works administrations in every community in our nation. States, counties and cities have contributed substantially by the purchase of materials and supplies. Their fine spirit in the development of this program gives hope that we may continue to utilize their assistance in the solution of this most evident program.

Must Look to Congress

"We will continue the President's program of civil works under funds available or to be made available, adjusting activities in the several communities to changing conditions in order that we may render the greatest social good to every person. The provision of funds for the further continuance of the Civil Works program is a matter entirely dependent upon the legislative branch of the government.

"Your approval of existing Civil Works projects and your sincere desire to perfect the operation of the program so that it may bring to all unemployed persons a real hope for the normal reconstruction of their lives in this difficult economic period are very much appreciated."

INCREASED WAGES FOR SHOPMEN

Officials of the Lackawanna Railroad increased the wages of 3000 shop employees in all locomotive mechanical plants from Hoboken to Buffalo four cents per hour, amounting to 52 cents per day. The higher rates became effective January 15.

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Navy Yards to Share In Building Big Navy

Not in years, says a Washington dispatch, have the Navy Department bureaucrats suffered such a rolling, blocking blow as that delivered to them by standing vote in the House last week when Chairman Vinson of the Naval Affairs Committee was bowled over in his attempt to have the big new navy built "one-half in the navy yards and one-half in private shipyards." The defeat was equally devastating for the so-called shipbuilding trust.

Because every ship built in a navy yard is a victory for labor, the vote was a tremendous labor victory.

Chairman Vinson was scarcely expected to propose his amendment to the shipbuilding bill, but it is no secret "on the hill" that he is practically bound to sponsor the Navy Department's legislative desires.

Thompson of Illinois had offered an amendment to the effect that "the first and each succeeding alternate vessel" be built in a navy yard. In the language of navy yard backers, that "breaks the back of the shipbuilding trust." Vinson immediately threw his amendment into the ring.

The Vinson provision for "one-half" of the ships to navy yards could mean half in numbers of ships, with a given number of capital ships going to private yards and an equal number of small ships going to the navy yards—dollars to the private yards, dimes to the navy yards.

The navy bureaucrats and the private yards went down to defeat, 140 to 93. Arsenals and government gun factories benefit equally with the navy yards.

If all the engineering triumphs mentioned by the manufacturers were combined in one car, wouldn't it be a humdinger?—Tulsa "World."

LEAVE FOR WASHINGTON

To personally present the Golden Gate Bridge and Highway District's request for federal funds with which to continue construction work on the bridge, James W. Reed, general manager, and John P. McLaughlin, director, left early this week for Washington. They will lay their request before the Public Works Administration.

DEATH AND BOULDER DAM

A strange fatality seems to attend the construction of the great Boulder dam. For the third time since work commenced death has struck at the successive heads of the enterprise. The last president of the Six Companies to succumb was E. O. Watters, who died at Ogden, Utah, last Sunday.

New York Photo Engravers' Union Wins Five-Day Agreement

New York Photo Engravers' Union No. 1 and the New York Newspaper Publishers' Association have signed an agreement calling for a five-day, 40-hour week for day workers and a 37½-hour week for night workers with no reduction in the weekly wage. Announcement of the signing of the agreement was made by Edward White, president of the New York union, at its annual meeting.

The agreement supplants the six-day 44-hour week and six-night 40-hour week previously in operation.

In shops where less then five photo engravers are employed, provision is made for a six-day, 40-hour and six-night, 37½-hour week at the option of the publishers, with a 5 per cent increase in pay for the longer week.

It was announced that a total of $1,103,560.66 was spent by the union last year in the care of its unemployed members.

Once Powerful Union To Be Rehabilitated

After a struggle extending over many years, Butte Miners' Union No. 13, of Butte, Mont., has secured an agreement from the Anaconda Copper Company, recognizing the union shop. In the negotiations the miners were represented by Robert Brown, Reid Robinson, William Vigiers, Lee Roy Evans, Dan Orlich and George Coles. The company was represented by John Hobbins.

The agreement declares that the company will not engage in either silent or active opposition to the work of the union in completing the full organization of the miners. Representatives of the union will be present at all conferences between the company and the employees. Union delegates will be permitted to solicit members in the mines and inclosures, and their officers will be given full consideration in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the miners. The company agreed that no discrimination will be shown against anyone active in organizing work.

When it was known that the agreement had been finalized, miners flocked to the union headquarters and enlisted in the union ranks. Hundreds were initiated during the first week of the agreement and applications were pouring in so rapidly that union officials predicted it will only be a short time until every miner in Butte will belong to the organized labor movement.

The little daughter of a great editor came back from Sunday school with an illustrated text card in her hand. "What's that you have there, little one?" the editor asked. "Oh," said the little girl, "just an ad about Heaven."—"National Motorist."

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RUN O' THE HOOK

(This department is conducted by the president of San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21)

Robert H. Goewey, who for some years was a member of the "Wall Street Journal" chapel, passed away in this city Saturday, February 3. Mr. Goewey suffered a stroke approximately a year ago and since had been unable to follow his vocation. He was a native of Wisconsin, and was about 60 years of age. The widow, Margaret Goewey, survives. Deceased was a member of the Masonic fraternity, under whose auspices the funeral was conducted on Monday last. Inurnment was in Woodlawn Memorial Park. The membership of No. 21 extends heartfelt sympathies to Mrs. Goewey in her bereavement.

Chauncey L. Booth sailed as printer on the S. S. Monterey last Tuesday, bound for Honolulu, where he will transfer, after a few days' stopover, to another ship headed for San Francisco.

"Should all printing craft unions amalgamate into one body for their protection?" asks the secretary of the Seattle Pressmen and Assistants' Union in a communication to the "Labor News" of that city. He proceeds: "If there ever was a time when this amalgamation of the printing craft unions was needed it is at the present time. . . . I believe that it can be truthfully said that the only way we can hold up the standard of our wages and hours is by joining hands with our sister locals of the different branches of the printing trades."

C. M. Baker, first vice-president of the International Typographical Union, was a visitor at a recent meeting of Kansas City Union No. 80 and briefly discussed matters of concern to members, according to the "Labor Herald" of that city. Mr. Baker told of recent attempts on the part of representatives of the I. T. U. to secure an acceptable code for the printing industry and the apparent frustration of those efforts. Both the newspaper and graphic arts codes, he stated, had been submitted to President Roosevelt in December for approval. Accompanying the codes, of course, were vigorous protests from the I. T. U. A significant fact in connection with the handling of the protracted, largely-attended hearings was the "sudden" and unsatisfactory termination of the negotiations. Professor Lindsay Rogers of New York, who had for several months been in charge of the hearings, and assigned to formulate the codes, and whose conduct and appreciation of the task were approved by all parties concerned, suddenly "quit" and went for an extended ocean voyage. General Johnson apparently took the reins in characteristic fashion, formulated the code and forwarded it to President Roosevelt for his approval, where it has since lain dormant, presumably, on his desk.

Ralph Pulitzer has resigned as administrator for the publishing industry under the proposed national code. According to Pulitzer's own statement the resignation comes as a direct result of a protest against his appointment filed at Washington by a branch of the recently organized Newswriters' Guild. Pulitzer was one of the owners of the New York "World," which was absorbed by the Scripps-Howard chain some two years ago, after a vigorous court battle, inaugurated to prevent the merger until bidders for the "World" property could be given opportunity to rehabilitate the publication. Several hundred were added to the unemployment roll by the merger. In their protest against the appointment the Newswriters said in part: "We see nothing in Ralph Pulitzer's record as publisher of the one-time New York 'World' to justify the belief that he will have the employees' interest fairly at heart. On the contrary, his record in the closing out of the New York 'World' leaves him in no position to restrain even the most ruthless activities of any publisher in dealing with employees."

President George S. Hollis of No. 21, who has been confined to his home with what threatened to be an attack of pneumonia, is reported to be on the way to recovery, and expects to be "on the job" in a few days.

"Call-Bulletins"—By "Hoot"

"Daddy" Todd, who is getting broken in as a baby toter, is thinking of entering the next walkathon. He knows just how many steps the bedroom is across, and how many trips you can make in an hour.

The signs of that terrible affliction, "Cupiditis," are showing more and more on the latest member of the chapel to become a victim of its tentacles. It may come to a crisis any day now.

George Mitchell, one of our venerable comma chasers, is having trouble with one of his "lamps" and is resting up.

Stephen P. Lunt, father of "Bert" Lunt, passed away last Saturday. The sympathy of the chapel is extended to Bert, one of the makeups.

When the operators, hand men and others came to the copy desk Monday there was a box of cigars with the sign, "Smoke with Ramsey." The boys are puzzled about what the occasion was.

We always thought that it was only the Scotch who were "thrifty." But there are others. One of the boys who lives down the peninsula got within a block or two of home when he discovered he had forgotten his paper, and promptly drove his Lizzie back to the office to get the missing "rag."

His former co-workers hope that by this time President George Hollis is back at the helm, recovered from his indisposition.

Some of the boys must have visited the auto show. Any time you see two or more with their heads together you may be sure they are talking about "stream lines," "knee action," "miles per gallon," etc., etc.

MAILER NOTES

By LEROY C. SMITH

For a good many years the professional office-seeking politicians of the M. T. D. U. have, in a majority of cases, corralled enough votes to elect themselves to local and national office on promises on which they never made good. In order to save their faces the higher-ups generally selected one whom they considered possessed the least voting strength to be "the goat." On being "advised" to retire, and failing to "see the light," he was summarily flattened out by the official steam roller with a full crew of the faithful water boys in attendance to see that the big shots' steam roller was hitting on all cylinders. No statesmen so far "read out" of the M. T. D. U. party by the inner circle of that hierarchy has ever succeeded in staging a "come-back." Just what will be the outcome of the Reformist party of New York Mailers' Union, headed by Charles N. Smith, in their attack on the citadel of the M. T. D. U., those now in power in the New York local, time alone can tell.

A circular issued by the campaign committee of the above named party, captioned, "Who's Afraid of the Big, Bad Wolf?" says: "We ask that you do not build your houses of straw or wood but of stone, that you will support Reformist party candidates for office." Referring to Charles N. Smith, who seeks office in the New York union, the circular says: "He has built well and wisely enough to protect you from the aims and desires of any big, bad wolf that has appeared or may appear on the scene. No doubt the wolf has been knocking at your door. Let Charles N. Smith help you chase him away and join in the chorus of 'Who's Afraid of the Big, Bad Wolf?'"

With the hearty support of all the "outlaw" locals, but who strongly oppose the plan, a mailers' international, even if organized, would be short-lived and a suicidal policy for mailers to undertake for many sound reasons that should be obvious to those mailers of the M. T. D. U. who voted in favor of the plan.

It would appear the fate of the M. T. D. U. and also the proposed plan of organizing a mailers' international union are now "trembling in the balance." Apparently the M. T. D. U. officers are bankrupt in initiative, while figures show the organization also faces bankruptcy. No M. T. D. U. locals have funds to squander in experimenting with a proposed international. The rank and file appear to be inert, apathetic; the M. T. D. U. officers and spokesmen are mum on the subject of an international for mailers, hoping, probably, that the whole plan will die a natural death, as the M. T. D. U. shows every indication of doing.

"COLLECTIVE BARGANING"

Sidney and Beatrice Webb, British writers and trade unionists, are credited with having first used the phrase "collective bargaining" in 1891. The Webbs defined collective bargaining as "negotiations between employers and work people when the work people act in concert and the employer meets a collective will."

SALES TAX REJECTED

In response to an appeal from United States Senator M. M. Neely, Progressive Democrat, the House of Delegates of the West Virginia Legislature has rejected a proposal for the levying of a sales tax.

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GARMENT INDUSTRY

The possibility that employers may refuse to sign an agreement with the union, resulting in a strike of all coat and suit makers in the city, is responsible for changing the plans of Israel Feinberg, international vice-president, who will remain in the city for the present. He had expected to leave Sunday for Portland.

Cloakmakers' local, at a special meeting last Saturday, appointed a strike committee with full power to act should it prove necessary to strike. A meeting of shop chairmen was held Wednesday afternoon at the union's headquarters, 739 Market street, and all preparations have been made for a walkout.

Employers so far have refused to act on the tentative agreement drawn up by sub-committees of employers and workers. A meeting of the employers is scheduled for tonight (Friday), and plans of the union await results of this meeting.

The agreement as drawn provides for a thirty-five-hour week, code wage scales, equal division of work, week work, closed shop, arbitration of all labor disputes in the industry, study by a committee of an unemployment insurance plan for the industry in this area, and study by another committee of the problem of piece work versus week work.

Considerable enthusiasm has been aroused among workers in the ladies' garment industry in San Francisco along organization lines. The latest development is the arrival of a charter from the International Ladies' Garment Workers for Dressmakers' Union No. 1 of San Francisco.

Organizers for this union have been having splendid success, and are being assisted by President Vandeleur of the Labor Council.

Local No. 8, Ladies' Coat Makers, a branch of the same organization, announces that all ladies' coats made in San Francisco now are union-made, and they ask that in buying coats members and friends of organized labor demand the local product.

MISS HOUCK IN HOSPITAL

Miss Daisy Houck of Los Angeles, member of the general executive board of the Garment Workers' Union, has been unable on account of sickness to attend to business for the organization for the last three weeks since her arrival in Seattle, says the "Labor News" of Seattle. She is now in a hospital.

GLASS BLOWERS' OFFICIAL DIES

Joseph O'Malley, for many years national representative of the American Flint Glass Workers' Union of North America, died in Fostoria, Ohio, January 27, as a result of a nervous breakdown extending over a number of months.

MOTION PICTURE CODE

National Recovery Administrator Hugh S. Johnson has issued an order extending to February 28 the time wherein evidence of compliance with the code for the motion picture industry may be filed by exhibitors or distributors.

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TO ENJOIN COMPANY UNION

W. B. Petty, Topeka, Kan., representative of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, filed suit in the District Court for an injunction to prevent the completion of two so-called employees' organizations and to bar the Kansas Power and Light Company from closing a contract with such organizations.

Titled British Labor Leader Will Be Heard in San Francisco

Lord Marley, British labor leader, deputy speaker of the British House of Lords, and British under secretary of war in 1930 and 1931, is coming to San Francisco to speak against the heads of the Nazi government in Germany, according to the local press.

He will speak under the auspices of the committee to aid victims of German Fascism, of which Baron Marley is international chairman and Professor Albert Einstein honorary chairman.

Lord Marley was to arrive in New York Tuesday last from England, and is planning a nation-wide lecture tour.

STRIKES IN JAPAN

That the situation of the Japanese workers and peasants is steadily deteriorating is shown by the number of strikes taking place. During the last six months of 1932 49,000 persons participated in various strikes occurring in Japan, but this number rose to 53,000 during the first six months of 1933, an increase of 4000 for the six months. At the same time the conflicts in the rural districts over debts, rents and taxes rose from 1100 for the first half of 1932 to 1793 for the first half of 1933, an increase of about 60 per cent. Strikes for wages increased from 16 per cent the first half to 20 per cent the second half of 1932 and rose to 34 per cent for the first half of 1933. That the Japanese workers are miserably underpaid is proved by the fact that the consumption of rice, sugar and cotton continually falls, while the productivity of the workers continually rises. Meanwhile in the big industries the part time workers are more numerous than full time workers.

In the Mitswbishi factory there are 1700 permanent and 1800 temporary workers; at the Matsuda munitions works, 600 permanent and 1000 temporary workers; while at the naval base at Kura there are 17,000 temporary and 10,000 permanent workers.

At the same time as the cost of living rises employment becomes less, while practically no relief is given from any source. All protest against these conditions is ruthlessly smashed and labor leaders who are in any way active in organizing strikes are thrown into jail and the union disbanded if possible. *

CULINARY NOTES

By C. W. PILGRIM

Thanks to the help given to the culinary unions by the friends of organized labor, the following houses have signed up and promise to go along with the unions: Taste Good Bakery, Downy Flake Doughnut Shop, El Capitan Grill, Granada, on Seventh street; Star, on Hayes street; Bombay, Mission street; Steve's Lunch, Twenty-ninth and Mission. The Bank, on Fourth, and the Imperial, on Jones, both of which were on the unfair list, have had the sheriff's lock put on them, which means two less chiselers that we have to fight.

The Joint Board is planning a campaign against the White Taverns. This chain system has only lately appeared in this city, and at present is doing a fairly good business because the workers are not awake to the fact that they are strictly anti-union all through, from kitchen to dining room. This firm uses only young, smart, good-looking people, works them long hours for miserably low wages, and fools them into believing that if they are efficient and work hard they will become managers or maybe even superintendents, or better still, the chairman of the board of directors of the company. The workers, not having any experience in the tricks of this type of employer, fall for the bunk and work the skin off their bones, only to discover when it is too late that they have been misled. This firm must be either brought into line with the unions or else driven out of San Francisco, and we ask all those who are in sympathy with the aims of organized labor to pass the White Taverns up when they are looking for a place to eat.

Clinton's, Foster's, the Sunset, all of the little hamburger joints, the Maison Paul and the Tip Top, on Market street, Bob's Restaurant and National Sandwich Shop, on Fourth street, are all still non-union. Needle trades workers, please remember the last two places when you are eating. Look for our house card; if it hangs in the window the place is O.K. and you can be sure the place is 100 per cent union. Remember, we are fighting to maintain the eight-hour day, five-day week and a decent living wage.

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S. F. LABOR COUNCIL

Labor Council meets every Friday at 8 p. m. at Labor Temple, Sixteenth and Capp streets. Secretary's office and headquarters, Room 205, Labor Temple. The Executive and Arbitration Committees meet every Monday at 7:30 p. m. Label Section meets first and third Wednesdays at 8 p. m. Headquarters phone, MArket 0056.

Synopsis of Minutes of Meeting Held Friday Evening, February 2, 1934

Called to order at 8:15 p. m. by President E. D. Vandeleur.

Roll Call of Officers—All present.

Minutes of previous meeting approved as printed in Labor Clarion.

Credentials—Bakers No. 24, Jurgen Petersen, Andrew Bauer, E. A. Warren, Paul Guderly, Fred Schierbaum, Ernest Baeck, and William Schneider; Masters, Mates and Pilots No. 90, E. B. O'Grady; Theatrical Attendants No. 19102, J. W. Lubkert. Delegates seated.

Report of Organizing Committee—On motion, regular order suspended and report read, recommending the granting of applications for affiliation of Masters, Mates and Pilots No. 90 and Theatrical Attendants No. 19102. Report adopted.

Communications—Filed—Blacksmiths No. 168, stating they will pay the 50 cents assessment to the convention fund. San Francisco Web Pressmen No. 4, to the same effect. From Louis McH. Howe, secretary to the President, White House, stating resolution on Market Street Railway situation will be brought to attention of the President and the administrator for Industrial Recovery. Senator Hiram W. Johnson, promising to do what he can to have appropriations provided for the continuance of C.W.A. work. Delegate Daniel P. Haggerty, expressions of appreciation for sympathy tendered on the death of his mother. American Federation of Labor, reciting history of destruction of the German labor unions by the Hitler government. Minutes of San Francisco Building Trades Council. William Green, telegram promising to submit protest of bakery truck drivers against proposed exemption of hours in proposed code. Secretary Morrison of A. F. of L., with reference to mass meeting in San Francisco to be addressed by Samuel Untermeyer on the German persecution of the Jewish race and advocacy of a boycott against German goods. Edward F. McGrady, assistant administrator of N.R.A., Washington, submitting resume of brief of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in regard to proposed code for the electric light and power industry. William Green, relative to mass meeting to be addressed by Samuel Untermeyer.

Request Complied With—Invitation of California State Council of Carpenters to have Secretary O'Connell attend their annual meeting at Merced, February 24 and 25.

Resolution submitted by Machinists' Lodge No. 68, suggesting that the Utilities Commission of San Francisco submit bid to construct the O'Shaughnessey dam, in competition with private contractors. Resolution indorsed. (Printed elsewhere in Labor Clarion.)

Report of Executive Committee—Controversy between Machinists No. 68 and Bellbrook Dairy, and controversy of Grocery Clerks and New Mission Market, both referred to the secretary for his efforts at adjustment. Concurred in.

Reports of Unions—Typographical No. 21 and Teamsters No. 85 promised contributions to convention fund. Division 518, Street Carmen, requested all union people not to patronize ball of Market Street Railway company union at California Hall. International Longshoremen's Association is seeking to organize warehousemen at Crockett. Delegate Lea Phillips thanked all delegates who voted for him in last election of officers. The Auto Mechanics requested all union people to patronize union shops when having repairs made on automobiles. Bakers No. 24 are negotiating with employers for arbitration proceedings to adjust differences. Culinary unions are making progress with employers; Maison Paul still unfair. Miscellaneous Employees have initiated 200 new members. Auto Painters are conducting an organizing campaign. Watchmen are now again functioning. Pastemakers gave an account of their progress in San Francisco and northern California. Cloakmakers have elected Sam White business agent; will assist culinary workers in every way. Miss Rose Pesotta of the Ladies' Garment Workers of Los Angeles was granted the floor and related conditions in the industry and progress made, stating the industry in Los Angeles is now fully organized.

Report of Law and Legislative Committee—On the resolution submitted by Window Cleaners No. 44, relative to the case of Alaska cannery workers and their controversy with the firm of Mayer & Young, committee submitted two reports, a majority and a minority report. The majority report requested further time to investigate the facts which had not been brought before the committee; the minority report, submitted by Chairman Heidelberg, was in the form of a resolution requesting the judiciary and the district attorney to give a speedy trial to the indictment found by the grand jury; on motion the minority report was substituted for the majority report, and after debate the minority report was adopted. (See resolution printed elsewhere in Labor Clarion.)

New Business—Moved to instruct the secretary to telegraph to President William Green a demand that there be labor representation on the code authority to administer the proposed code for bakers and bakery drivers. Motion carried.

Installation of Officers—Ex-President Daniel P. Haggerty installed the newly elected officers of the Council, after which President Vandeleur, Vice-President Noriega, Secretary O'Connell and Delegate Daniel C. Murphy addressed the Council on past achievements and future plans of the local labor movement.

Receipts, $259.60; expenditures, $425.87.

Council adjourned at 10:35 p. m.

Fraternally submitted.

JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secretary.

Note. Patronize the union label, card and button, and whenever possible ride on the Municipal Railway cars. J. A. O'C.

WE DON'T PATRONIZE LIST

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize List" of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of Labor Unions and sympathizers are requested to cut this out and post it.

American Tobacco Company.
Baker, Hamilton & Pacific Co.
California Building Maintenance Co., 20 Ninth
Clinton Cafeterias.
Co-Op Manufacturing Company.
Domestic Hand Laundry, 218 Ellis.
Ernest J. Sultan Mfg. Co.
E. Goss & Co., Cigar Mfg., 113 Front.
Foster's Lunches and Bakeries.
Goldberg, Bowen & Co., grocers, 242 Sutter.
Goldstone Bros., manufacturers of Dreadnaught and Bodyguard Overalls.
"Grizzly Bear," organ of N. S. G. W.
Hollywood Dry Corporation and its Products.
Manning's, Inc., Coffee and Sandwich Shops.
Mann Manufacturing Company, Berkeley.
Market Street R. R.
Marquard's Coffee Shop and Catering Co.
Purity Chain Stores.
Q. R. S. Neon Corporation, 690 Potrero Ave.
San Francisco Biscuit Co. (located in Seattle)
The Mutual Stores Co.
Torino Bakery, 2823 Twenty-third.
Traung Label & Litho Co.
Union Furniture Co., 2075 Mission.
All Barber Shops open on Sunday are unfair.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

The following resolution was adopted by the San Francisco Labor Council at its regular meeting last Friday night:

ALASKA CANNERY WORKERS

"Whereas, The firm of Mayer & Young is alleged to have been for many years past guilty of practicing extortion upon many of the unorganized Alaska cannery workers; and

"Whereas, Under the direction of the Labor Commissioner, Attorney Arthur L. Johnson has conducted an investigation into such practices which has led to an indictment by the Grand Jury, and pursuant thereto legal proceedings have been duly instituted against said firm of Mayer & Young for a criminal offense; and

"Whereas, Such legal proceedings are alleged to have been unduly delayed, and the delay may prove detrimental to the prosecution of the case; therefore be it

"Resolved, by the San Francisco Labor Council in regular session assembled this 2nd day of February, 1934, That the presiding judge of the Superior Court be requested to assign a judge and a court for an early hearing of such criminal proceedings, and that District Attorney Brady be asked for his co-operation in securing an early trial of this case."

O'SHAUGHNESSY DAM CONTRACT

The following resolutions, adopted and presented by Machinists' Lodge No. 68, were indorsed by the Council:

"Whereas, At the special election of the City and County of San Francisco held on November 19, 1933, the citizens voted to raise the O'Shaughnessy Dam as a part of the program under the Public Works Administration; and

"Whereas, The government is to furnish 30 per cent of the expenditures under the National Industrial Recovery Act and the city the other 70 per cent; therefore be it

"Resolved, by San Francisco Lodge No. 68, International Association of Machinists, That the Public Utilities Commission office be urged to bid for this work along with other contractors; and be it further

"Resolved, That the highest prevailing rates of wages be incorporated in all contracts together with the six-hour day, five-day week, and that copies of this resolution be sent to the Public Works Administration, the mayor's office, the Public Utilities Commission, the city administrator, the supervisors, the San Francisco Labor Council, the Building Trades Council and to the press."

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Los Angeles Branch: 105 COURT ST.
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Phone MIssion 8744

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

"One may discuss economic theory from every viewpoint till doomsday and the sum total of effort remains 'words, words, words,'" says Timothy A. Reardon, director of the State Department of Industrial Relations, in his recapitulation of his report to the governor's council for January. He continues:

"Idle men and idle machines mean sterile dollars locked in vaults. This was the exact picture of the country up to March 4, 1933.

"What now? A change which is deep-rooted and fundamental has come over the land—factories are running; men are working; as nearly as possible, the surplus unemployed are given a decent wage on public works, which directly benefits the nation and revives the spirit of labor, since it does not enforce the idleness of the dole.

"The breath of life and constructive effort is felt by all because of a President who is not afraid to try and a governor who is fearless in executing any program for the good of the people. The 'new deal' is becoming a fact."

—

The report reveals that the peak year of the Industrial Accident Commission since its organization was reached when 6376 original applications were filed during the calendar year of 1933. Out of this total the commission decided 6064 original claims, and all parties concerned should feel greatly satisfied with the work done, when it is realized the commission is under-staffed.

In addition to the increased number of applications filed, the commission has had the added burden of trying to salvage something from the assets of a number of insurance carriers who went into the hands of receivers, so that injured employees may recover something upon the awards made against these defunct companies.

The safety department of the Industrial Accident Commission reports that the workers on the bay bridges have completed a total of 1,460,000 working hours, and due to the efficient safety program of the contractors the accident frequency curve shows a gradual and substantial decline. According to the hazard, men are provided with steel hats, electric safety lamps, life preserving vests, and in the event of injury are given first-aid treatment in excellently equipped field hospitals.

—

The division of state employment agencies reports that it has secured work for 151,007 persons since July 1, 1932.

At present there are in excess of 1500 overplacements on the rolls of the Civil Works Administration. Despite the fact that the division has exercised the highest care in supplying the exact number of workers required in each project, other agencies in the state, without consultation, are responsible for these excess placements. A careful check is being made on all projects and, when concluded, all those who have been placed in violation of the regulations set out in the Civil Works Administration must be dropped so that the bona fide employees may continue at work.

Because the number of workers now in the field exceeds the quota in various projects, instructions from Washington direct a change from a thirty-hour week to a twenty-four-hour week; otherwise, the present allocation of funds would be exhausted in approximately two months.

Because of existing conditions, there can be no replacements nor any more jobs given until federal appropriations are made.

—

The division of labor statistics and law enforcement reports that violations of labor laws generally show a continued decrease in 2588 complaints received in December, 1933, as against 3265 during December of 1932; 94 per cent of this total represents alleged violations of wage laws and 6 per cent of the total complaints were for violation of other labor laws.

During the past month $47,445.54 in wage claims was collected and during the same period 1281 wage claims were settled. The average claim was $37.04.

Criminal prosecutions during December totaled 121 and 50 civil suits were filed to collect $16,782.63 for 103 wage claimants.

The division of industrial welfare, in enforcing its minimum wage regulations, has secured $66,212.81 in back wages for 23,700 women and minors employed in fruit and vegetable canneries during the past season. When the special audit of seasonal canneries has been completed, 35,000 women and minors will receive protection in getting their full wage.

Mrs. Mabel E. Kinney, chief of the division, has been appointed chairman of the executive committee of the motion picture code.



Natural Gas

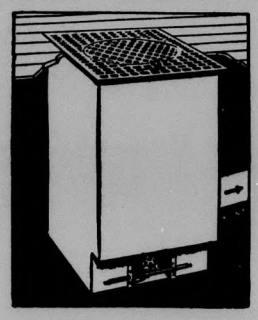
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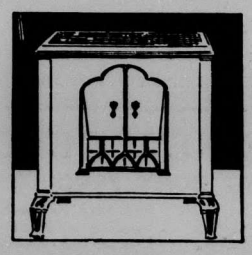


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Merger of Two Unions In Headwear Industry

The United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers' International Union, representing a merger of two international unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, was launched in the presence of William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, the officials of both unions and a host of labor leaders in New York last week.

The merger, which will bring within the jurisdiction of the new international union 50,000 workers engaged in the manufacture of headwear, was hailed by President Green and other leaders of organized labor as a symbol of the spirit of solidarity that is enabling the workers to press forward in an effort to make the most of present opportunities.

The final scene that ended a struggle that persisted for years, in which the United Hatters of North America, one of the oldest of the unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and the Cloth Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers' International Union, were frequently involved in jurisdictional differences, occurred when delegates from the two unions assembled for the first time to ratify the agreement that had already been reached in separate conventions.

President Green, whose persistent efforts and frequent advice did much to make the amalgamation possible, proclaimed it as an event of great importance not only to the thousands of members who were now being brought together, but to organized labor throughout the nation.

Michael F. Greene, president, and Martin Lawlor, secretary-treasurer of the United Hatters, become president and vice-president respectively of the new international union. Max Zaritsky, president of the Cloth Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers' International Union, becomes the secretary-treasurer of the new international, and Nathaniel Spector, head of one of the large millinery locals, becomes assistant secretary-treasurer of the merged union. An international executive board, with five members chosen by each of the two unions, will conduct the affairs of the international.

International Representative Honor Guest of Cloakmakers

As a testimonial to Israel Feinberg of New York City, international vice-president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, a dinner was given by Cloakmakers' Union No. 8 last Saturday night at Mendel's-at-the-Beach.

Other guests of the union were Hugo Ernst, president of the Joint Board of the Culinary Workers; David Gisnet, former manager of the union and now manager of Dressmakers' Local No. 101; Rose Pesotta, international organizer of the union, and Samuel S. White, newly elected manager. Other speakers included Henry Zacharin, president of the Dressmakers' Union; Fred Goldstein, Cloakmakers' delegate to San Francisco Labor Council, and J. Mencoff and M. Caplan, veteran members of the organization. Charles Schartzberg, former president of the union, acted as toastmaster.

Feinberg is in San Francisco to conduct negotiations with employers in the coat and suit industry. Miss Pesotta, who led the recent successful dressmakers' strike in Los Angeles, arrived here last week to inaugurate an organization campaign among local dressmakers.

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Record Established in January By Municipal Railway Receipts

Passenger revenues of the Municipal Railway system showed the greatest increase in its history during the month of January, records of the Public Utilities Commission show, a 21-year record.

Total receipts during the month were $250,994.71, as compared with $228,423.92 a year ago, an increase of $22,570.78.

Average daily receipts were $8038.06 and $7279.90, respectively—an increase of 10.41 per cent.

NEW CENTRAL BODY

Selecting the name, "Placer County Affiliated Labor Council," the unions of Roseville have perfected the preliminary organization of a central labor council with five unions—Carmen, Carpenters, Barbers, Machinists and Waitresses—presenting formal credentials. The Railway Clerks, Typographical Union and Butchers were represented informally. C. A. Stamm of the Barbers was chosen temporary president and J. L. Velasquez of the Carmen temporary secretary.

"GOD PROTECT OUR PRESIDENT"

A patriotic song, words by Rev. Dennis J. Kavanagh, S. J., and music by Dr. Milton Francis Clark, has been favorably received in San Francisco, and its authors expect to make it familiar to every citizen of the country. It is, they say, California's only contribution to America's library of patriotic songs. The first verse is as follows:

"God protect our President;
His steps from paths of error guide.
Wisdom give our President—
Make all his thoughts in truth abide.
Be to him a beacon light
To guide his every judgment right.
Make him strong and confident.
O God protect our President."

Scholarships Are Suggested for Summer School at Los Angeles

John L. Kerchen, director of workers' education for the extension division of the University of California and State Federation of Labor, will conduct a workers' education class on Monday nights in March at the Mission Center Y. W. C. A., 2520 Folsom street. This class is for the purpose of preparing students for the Summer School for Industrial Workers at Los Angeles. It is hoped that through scholarships raised by interested individuals and organizations San Francisco may send five or six industrial workers to this school this summer. A workers' education committee organized by Mr. Kerchen is attempting to secure funds for scholarships from the Bay region in order that the northern part of California may be more widely represented at the school this summer.

SYNDICALISM CHARGES DROPPED

Criminal syndicalism charges against Pat Chambers, San Joaquin Valley strike leader, were dismissed this week at Visalia at the request of the district attorney, who pointed out to the court that a jury failed to agree at Chambers' recent trial and that no new evidence had been found since.

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